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SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE GRANTED FOR COASTAL INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (CIS) EMPLOYEE AND CAG DAVID MITCHELL TO TRAVEL TO BARBADOS

REF: STATE 028539

- 11. Embassy Bridgetown welcomes and grants country clearance for Coastal International employee David Mitchell to travel to Bridgetown on March 1, 2006 28 February 2007. The purpose of this trip is to provide Cleared American Guard (CAG) support to the OBO construction project.
- 12. Reservations have been confirmed for the traveler at South Beach Hotel, Rockley at Accra, Christ Church, tel. (246) 435-8561. Points of contact for the arriving personnel are Site Security Manager, Angela Arrliga and CSM Team Leader Robert Curry, who may be contacted at office (246) 427-6819, Cellular (246) 820-8911.
- 13. The visitor will be met at the airport and transported to his lodging by TL Robert Curry.
- 14. Entry requirements: All American citizens must have a valid passport to travel to Barbados. No visa is required. For further information, travelers may contact the Embassy of Barbados, 2144 Wyoming Avenue N.W., Washington D.C. 20008, telephone 1-202-939-9200.
- 15. Departure tax for Barbados is BD\$25.00 or US\$12.50.
- 16. The following is general information pertaining to security and health considerations throughout the Eastern Caribbean:

Security

In the Eastern Caribbean, foot travel outside of well-established tourist areas is not generally recommended, especially at night. Be vigilant when using public telephones or ATM machines near roadsides or quiet areas. As in many U.S. metropolitan areas, wearing expensive jewelry, carrying expensive objects, or carrying large amounts of cash should be avoided. Visitors should also safeguard valuables while at the beach. While hotels are generally safe, many visitors have experienced loss of unattended items. Hotel burglaries are not uncommon and all valuables should be locked in room safes if possible.

Health Information

Throughout the Eastern Caribbean, the most likely threat to a visitor's health is sunburn. It takes several weeks to become accustomed to the heat and humidity. Prolonged exposure to the sun, without protection, causes sunburn and may ultimately result in sun-damaged skin or even skin cancer. Sunscreens should be used for protection. In Barbados, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent the major health threat is dengue fever, transmitted by mosquito. Dengue cases are most often

seen in the summer months. Persons should therefore protect themselves with insect repellant. There is also a growing number of HIV/AIDS cases reported. The Eastern Caribbean enjoys clean and safe drinking water. Only routine boosters for immunizations (i.e. tetanus, diphtheria, and oral polio vaccine) are required when traveling to this region. Barbados has the best medical facilities of all the islands in the region and most of the medical specialties have practitioners here.

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